
Pinnacle, 1953-1955

Student Newspapers

Winter 12-1953

The Pinnacle 12/1953

Gorham State Teachers College

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G. S. T. C. Welcomes New Talent



Left to right: Garrath Oakes, Jan Bloomer, and Kenneth Kuzmeskas.

KUZMESKAS, OAKES, BLOOMER NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED

Among the many Freshmen who entered Gorham State Teachers College this fall, perhaps the three most talented students in their respective fields are Kenneth Kuzmeskas, Garrath Oakes, and Jan Bloomer. At least they have the distinction of being nationally recognized.

Take Ken for instance. Many of us were introduced to him when he played the accordion at the Y-Lite Show. Some of us got ourselves drawn by him at the "Green and White Way."

Soon after this, we heard of him again when the Art Club sponsored an exhibit featuring his paintings, for it is painting which holds the most interest for Ken and it is the field in which he excels.

In order to comprehend the scope of Ken's talents, we have to know his background, his instruction, and his ambitions.

Born in Gardiner, Mass. in 1935 he began to draw in Grammar School. Lessons soon followed.

In his Sophomore year of high school, Ken entered the Leland-Gray Seminary in Concord, Vermont. Here he was instructed by the headmaster Arlow Monroe. This is where he developed his ability to paint landscapes.

Two years later, he and his family moved to Springfield, Vermont. Here he painted many landscapes of the surrounding areas under the instruction of Mr. Bateman.

In his Senior year of high school, Ken entered two-art contests. The first was sponsored by all the local newspapers in the State of Vermont. Each town has its own contest, sponsored by its own paper.

Ken won the first prize in his home town contest. The contest was divided into three groups--primary, intermediate and high school. Ken took first prize in the high school division and from there he went to Newberry, Vermont.

The three divisions were judged and again Ken took the first prize. He was presented his award by Lieutenant Governor Johnson of Vermont. The painting was a landscape called "Hill Town."

The second contest which Ken entered was sponsored by Women's Clubs. Each state selected a painting to be sent to Washington for national honors. Again Ken came out on top.

The theme was "Preservation of our American Heritage." As a subtopic Ken chose the problem of Negro Education. He was awarded a generous scholarship to any art school of college in the country.

Now the question arises, why did this talented young man choose G. S. T. C.? Perhaps we should let him tell us in his own words.

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G. S. T. C. Issues New Catalog

Our collegenow, like most other colleges, has a well worded and very informative catalog. These new catalogs contain much of the necessary information for future students at this institution.

The philosophy of G. S. T. C. is stated very well in ten major points. These will give anyone a basic understanding of what Gorham is striving for.

Another interesting feature of the catalog is the descriptive list of the various courses offered here. Anyone wishing a broad education will certainly find it among these 75-80 subjects.

These new catalogs will be invaluable at high school vocational guidance programs and to in-coming Freshman. Many thanks go to Mr. Whitten and the other members of the staff who cooperated in making this service available to us.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!
HAPPY NEW YEAR!

On Christmas Eve thousands of the faithful will go into sanctuaries, dimly lighted and pervaded by soft organ music, heralding again the birth of One born in a manger and before whom the high and low bow down and worship. Prayers, audible and silent, will the air for the safety of those who are not with us this Christmas and for the coming of a lasting and righteous peace.

Birth of the Pinnacle

Today marks the publication of the first issue of the Pinnacle. Within its pages you will find more than news of interest. You will see and I hope feel the strength of those people who have worked beyond the call of duty so that you the students of G. S. T. C. might have a college paper to enjoy and call your own.

To work on a college paper is an honor in itself, an honor that very few people have a chance to receive. Working on the Pinnacle is perhaps, in my opinion, the most rewarding job on campus.

However, along with its rewards, there comes an equal amount of worries. A college editor once said, "Only editors have to grope blindly along, trying to put out a paper for a student body and faculty who will never tell them what they like or dislike, who will squawk audibly only when they are mortally and irreparably wounded, who never thank them when they say anything nice or censor anything nasty about them, who have to be tracked down, cornered, and beaten insensible before they will so much as give them a news lead."

"Only editors are supposed to know everything that happens, so it is taken for granted that they know it, and nobody every tells them anything; only editors are supposed to keep open minds and at the same time make snap decisions." This all brings up the point that the editor and his staff cannot do everything alone but must have help from other campus leaders.

The new staff will attempt to do what its future readers wish, and also try to uphold the standards of good journalism.

One of the main goals of the new staff will be to extend its coverage on local news and the achievements of G. S. T. C. The Pinnacle will also crusade, to the utmost extent of the printed word, for what we think is right. We at least will have the satisfaction of knowing that the thousands of words written with each issue cannot be erased, and that we are doing a job for the students which no one else could do in quite the same way.

And so at this time I should like to express my deep appreciation to those people who so generously gave their time and energy in making it possible for the publication and distribution of the first issue of the Pinnacle.

The strength and unity of its existence can only be assured if its members continue to work together as a whole and thereby become greater than the sum of their parts.

It is my chief desire that the Pinnacle will soon become a Gulliver among Lilliputians and take its rightful place among the college papers throughout the state.

If such a dream is to materialize, you, the students of G. S. T. C. must pledge your allegiance to such a goal, for it is you and only you who will profit. The paper is yours. Defend it to the best of your ability. Don't fall back upon the words, "I am just one student. What can I do?" Answer rather, "It is our part to make the effort and to put the fullest force and integrity into that effort."

Marshall E. Bean



Dec. 18	Christmas Holidays Begin
Jan. 4	Classes Resumed
Jan. 27	First Semester Ends
Feb. 1	Second Semester Begins
Feb. 13	Coronation Ball
Feb. 13-18	Winter Carnival Week



PINNACLE STAFF
G. S. T. C.
GORHAM, MAINE

Editor-in-Chief.....Marshall Bean
Assistant Editor.....Carol Norman
Associate Editor.....Dave Tanous
Business Manager.....Carroll Beals
Sports Editor.....Leroy Rand
Literary Editor.....Lois Nicherson
Club Editor.....Marlene McBane
Art Editor.....Patti Carmichael
Dorm Editors.....Connie Marsh (Robbie)
Harriet Lancaster (East)
Typists.....Jane Whittier, Harriet Morton,
Barbara Merrill, Joanne Gurney
Art Department.....Jan Bloomer, Fred St. Cyr,
David Berenson
Reporters at Large.....Priscilla Lowe, Ronald Contara
Dessie Abbott, Imogene Scammon,
Pat Barnes, Ronald Dunham,
Harriet Morton, Barbara Roberts,
Joan Edgett, Janet Braden,
Jane Halderts, Betty Lou Dodge,
Connie Gray, Jean McKay,
Mary Joan McDonough, Ann Feeham,
Peggyanne Pullen, Carolyn Cottle,
Joanne Gurney, Marilyn Coleman.

MAYOR RAND PREDICTS BETTER ENTERTAINMENT



Mayor Leroy Rand with hat and cane.

This reporter had a hard time trying to corner one of the busiest figures on campus, but after many attempts, he got an interview.

Born in Portland in 1933, receiving his education there, Leroy Rand graduated from Cheverus High School highest in his class. With his pep, intelligence, and friendliness, he stormed the campus of G. S. T. C. and it wasn't long before his presence was felt by everyone. It wasn't until the climax of a week of campaigning that the students here on campus suddenly realized that a new leader was soon to be heard and respected. For it was on November 6, 1953 that Leroy Rand, small in stature, but mighty in abilities, accepted the traditional gold headed cane and became the new mayor here on campus.

We the student body wish you good luck Mr. Mayor and may you uphold your duties to the best of your ability.



Camera Club joins forces with Pinnacle--busy year seen for 1953-54 calendar.

Alpha Lambda Beta surprised the campus with a Silver Tea to open a week of festivities to celebrate their 25th anniversary. Everything was a big success. Keep up the good work!

Outing Club of G.S.T.C.--well represented at the Camden Snow Bowl Lodge.

Varsity "G" Club assumes duties of intra-mural program. Polio Drive sure to meet its goal under leadership of Omega Nu Epsilon. Spot Light Review Show awaited by all.

Senior rally to cause. Collection of articles for children at Christmas meets with big success.

Freshman Class strong in leaders as first semester draws to a close. President Bernard Neveux proves worthy of his office.

House Committee tries to foster good relationships in the Dormitory.

S.C.A. may soon join forces Glee Club for their outstanding performance of the "Messiah" presented on December 13th.

Green and White Way fared well this fall but could have been better. What happened to our so-called "Class Spirit"? "Hats off" to all those who worked on committees for its success.

Y.W.C.A. has big turnout for "Y Lite Show"

Commuter's Club joins charmed circle with Alpha Lambda Beta in celebrating 25th Anniversary. Bill Herman played host to all members at his home in Falmouth. Fun was had by all.

"Silver Teas" seem to be catching on like wild fire as the Art Club joins ranks with big success.

College Band equipped this year with new music. Membership is still open to all those interested in music who play an instrument.

Campus Gossip

Who are the alarm clock fiends? It seems that seven were ringing in Robie Monday morning, and all seven came from the direction of Room 79. What's cooking, girls?

We're glad to see Barbara Flanagan and Carole Thomas recuperated and back in the swing of things.

Why is Barden's so popular with certain Freshman girls? What is the big attraction?

Who is the cute Freshman girl whom F. Day is so interested in?

Everyone has heard of flying saucers, but have you ever heard of a flying mattress? Just ask Becky Trufant. Instead of walking downstairs, she decided to take a shortcut, taking her mattress. The one unforeseen result of the incident was--you guessed it--a white slip.

Barb Roberts' theme song should be "Always" for a certain Grove City College guy.

The girls in the dorm have begun working on plans for a Christmas tea. Have fun, girls!

That's all for now, see you next issue!

DR. PAYSON SMITH SHARES HIS WISDOM

Dr. Payson Smith smiles a sly smile and doesn't intend to have you take him seriously when he talks about "sharing my wisdom" with those less blessed with knowledge and experience, but he ought to be taken seriously. Few men in Maine today can speak so intelligently on so many subjects as the 81-year-old educator who has served as commissioner of education for both Maine and Massachusetts.

CRAMER M. F. T. A. VICE PRESIDENT

At the Maine Teachers Convention in Lewiston this year, a meeting of the M. F. T. A.--(Maine Future Teachers Association) was held. This is the state association of all individual F.T.A. chapters. At this meeting, Donald Cramer, of Gorham State Teachers College was chosen Vice President by the nominating committee. Don is the first from Gorham to hold a high office in this state organization.

Don is from Union, Maine, and was graduated from Union High School. Here at Gorham State Teachers College he is a member of the F.T.A., Student Governing Council, and Omega Nu Epsilon Fraternity. In Omega, he is Executive Secretary of the Fraternity, and Alumni Secretary of the Alumni Association of Omega Nu Epsilon.

Don is a member of the Junior Class here at G.S.T.C. and is a student in the Industrial Arts Department.

POND GROVE

I'm sure you are alive
For --
When I tossed you a stone,
You wiggled with delight.

His is a wisdom that comes not alone from reading books or battling theories around; his comes from engaging to the fullest in the rugged battles of life, engaging in them with courage and purpose and intent to improve the lot of man, or in Doctor Smith's specific case, the lot of school children.



Editorial

HELPING THEM TO HELP THEMSELVES

A few weeks ago a familiar grumble could be heard around campus. As the first quarter drew to a close, famous last words such as "But my mother hasn't even sent my money yet" or "Is it time to pay again?" were heard throughout the corridors; and once again we had to "dig deep". With many of us this meant taking money that we ourselves had earned. But with none of us did it mean that we were going to have to go without the basic necessities of life in order to get an education. As we grumble about how much our books or our board and room cost, how many of us stop to think that in Asia, Europe, and the Middle East, students are struggling not only to pay their college fees, but to get food and clothing, a place to sleep and work, medical care, and books from which to learn.

No student generation has been so confronted as has ours with the necessity for international awareness and understanding of destitute students over the world. Because of this need, the World University Service was formed as the channel through which students of the world could unite to help each other. This mutual service is sponsored internationally by the World's Student Christian Federation, the World Union of Jewish Students, and Pax Romana IMCS; and in the United States by B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation, National Newman Club Federation, U.S. National Student Association, and the United Student Christian Association, including the Y.M.C.A. and the Y.W.C.A. and the student divisions of the Protestant churches.

On this campus the W.U.S. fund and clothing drive was sponsored by the World Relatedness Commission of our Y.M.C.A. This year the commission is headed by Margaret Wentworth with Janet Shaw and Madeline Clement as co-workers. The fund began on Nov. 10. with a chapel address by David King, a graduate student at Andover Newton Theological Seminary. From then on such events as the Green and White Way, dorm collections, candy sales and so on were sponsored to help reach the goal of \$200.

Everyone that gave up a few cokes or an hour in the lounge to help with the drive can rest assured that neither his time nor money was wasted. Even if we never see directly what became of that quarter, we can remember that in order to win, they must have our help. Our contributions may mean the difference between success and failure. Through the work of the W.U.S. we are giving action which is concrete, direct and effective.

SPORTING WITH THE LADIES

The college has a Women's Athletic Association, whose purpose shall be to encourage participation in sports and allied activities by all women students and to provide an opportunity for such participation. Every woman student at Gorham State Teachers College automatically is a member of W. A. A.

This year's officers of W.A.A. are Barbara Luse, President; Margaret Grover, Vice-President; Virginia Norris, Secretary; Jackie Lajoie, Treasurer; Student Council representatives are Adele Kimball and Margaret Grover.

At the present time we are beginning basketball for the girls. We hope every girl interested will participate in this sport. The basketball counselor is Diane Richmond.

Jackie Brooks was counselor for field hockey. This sport was added new to our list of girls sports this fall.

Padminton was just stopped after a nine week period. Counselor for Padminton was Beverly Fuller.

Throughout the year many sports will be offered for the women students. For every sport a girl participates in

she will receive twenty-five points. The points help a girl earn her numerals or letter.

The W.A.A. has the charge of choosing the cheerleaders. This year our cheerleaders are going to have new uniforms. This year Gorham W. A. A. was the vice-president college at an annual convention, of eight Maine Colleges, at the University of Maine, November twentieth. Barbara Luce and Jane Brown accompanied by Miss Doris Fitz, our advisor, represented Gorham at this convention. The girls were kept very busy.

Miss Fitz was editor of the November 1953 issue of the "Newsletter." The "Newsletter" is issued twice a year by the Maine Association for Health, Physical Education and Recreation. Dr. Francis L. Bailey, President of Gorham State Teachers College, is one of the administrators making this policy possible.

An Ignorant Man Cannot Be Saintly

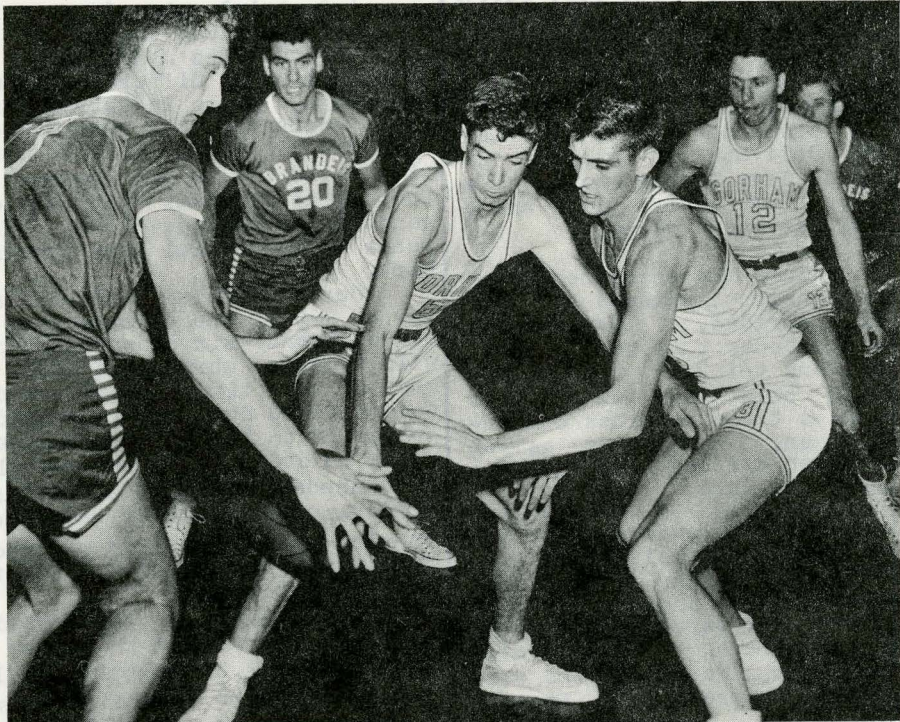
I, for one, am happy to see so many Jewish students at Gorham this year. Any institution, to be a college in the fullest sense of the word, should be a real cross-section of races, nationalities, and religions. Gorham, of course, can never be an ideal college in this respect, because Maine is not the melting pot that New York City, for instance, is. But we can, at least, be aware of our good fortune when there are signs of our approaching that ideal. The people we meet in college are fully as important as our classes, but they, the people, contribute to our education only to the extent that they are different from those we would have met had we not come to college.

Jewish people today have inherited a proud heritage, one reaching back many centuries, and continuing in an almost unbroken pattern from antiquity to the present day. Jewish culture constitutes one third of the familiar Greek-Hebrew-Christian triumvirate, that triple cornerstone of western civilization.

The preservation of Jewish tradition and culture has not, as we all well know, been easy. It has survived wars, persecution, and purges, as well as those less violent but just as deadly forms of hostility - intolerance and misunderstanding. At the basis of this survival, it goes without saying, is the indomitable spirit of the Jewish people, but there is another significant factor - the position of Jewish tradition toward education and learning.

"An ignorant man cannot be saintly" runs a quotation from the Talmud. High on the Jewish scroll of "good works" is study and an intimate acquaintance with books. Neither faith nor hope nor charity is enough; ever and above these, and almost as great is learning. Thus by the time a Jewish child is ready for school he has accepted completely the idea that it is inevitable that he educate himself to the best of his ability. The problem of quitting school for work is, therefore, seldom faced.

G S T C SPORTS



An action picture taken during the Gorham-Brandeis game in the beginning of the season. Left to right: Jim Huston (17), Len Wenograd (20), Tony Wedge (6), Keith Packard and Wie Gauzie (12).

G. S. T. C. WELCOMES NEW COACH

This fall our basketball team--the champions of the New England Teachers' College Conference--opened its defense under the able tutelage of Mr. Frank Pollard, for two years assistant coach under Mr. John Bodnarik. Mr. Pollard who hails from McKeesport, Pennsylvania brings to his new office a rich background of athletic experience. He was awarded his B. S. in Science by Allegheny State T. C. where he was an outstanding sportsman and athlete; gained his M. S. in Physical Education at Springfield College, and in his two years at G. S. T. C. has won the respect of players and fans alike. The Pinnacle wishes to

extend its best wishes for a fine season to a real great guy. Good Luck, Mr. Pollard!

As assistant to Mr. Pollard this year will be Mr. Richard A. Costello--alias Sam Spade--regarded as a rather charmed creature on campus. In his first two months here he named the Pinnacle, played an exciting villain in the faculty skit, and won the admiration of all the students and faculty alike. Mr. Costello lists Burlington, N.J. as a home town. He has studied

at the University of Alabama (B. S. in Physical Education) and the University of Illinois (M. S. in Physical Education).

CLOWN

His beard was long and white,
And His face seemed tired and gray,
"My children I am God," He said,
We laughed and ran away.

Of course we are interested in our Jewish students first as friends and classmates, but just occasionally let us remind ourselves that each of them is a small portion of a tremendous design, a design with geographical boundaries almost limitless, and with chronological boundaries barely perceptible through the dimness of time.

Others of us, from other ethnic groups, have also our backgrounds of tradition and culture, extending perhaps not quite so far back in time, but equally worthy of note. It is useless to compare the respective contributions of Judaism, Catholicism, and Protestantism, just to mention three important traditions. Their mere survival bespeaks man's need for them, his reluctance to discard any one of them. They have all contributed to a greater understanding of his world, his fellow man, and his God.

by Mr. Weeks

HILLTOPPERS HIT WINNING TRAIL

Playing ball as they should have done in their first two games, the Hilltoppers of Gorham State Teachers College used all the tricks in the book and then some in beating their arch rivals the Beavers of Farmington State Teachers College 82 to 59. The game took on local color towards the end as Farmington decided that they would play by their own rules which included the use of fists. Red faces were shared on both sides and, as it looked to this reporter, nothing was gained by anyone except the disrespect of those people (including myself) who know, what good sportsmanship is and how and when to use it. I always thought that good sportsmanship outweighed any victory a team could bestow upon their coach but I guess I was all wrong. I guess you play to win no matter what the cost may be. At least, that's how it looks to me.

As future teachers have we forgotten how to act in public? If so we had better change horses even if we are in midstream for the water gets colder and much deeper as we go on and in order to lead others to the other side we must first get across ourselves.

VARSITY BASKETBALL SCHEDULE 1953-1954

Nov. 30	Quonset Naval Air Sta.
Dec. 4	Brandeis University
Dec. 5	*At Farmington S.T.C.
Dec. 7	*Salem S.T.C.
Dec. 11	*R. I. C. E.
Dec. 17	*At Keene S.T.C.
Dec. 18	*At No. Adams S.T.C. (Mass.)
Jan. 9	*At Fitchburg S.T.C.
Jan. 13	*Plymouth S.T.C.
Jan. 16	*Farmington S.T.C.
Jan. 20	At Bates College
Jan. 29	At Quonset Naval Air Station
Jan. 30	*At R. I. C. E.
Feb. 1	*At Salem S.T.C.
Feb. 5	*New Britain S.T.C.
Feb. 8	Lyndon S.T.C.
Feb. 10	*Keene S.T.C.
Feb. 12	Providence College
Feb. 17	*At Plymouth S.T.C.
* Denotes Conference Games	

300,000 MORE

Uncle Sam---the teacher's friend!

That's the latest role of Mr. Whiskers. It seems we do not have enough schools. We could use 300,000 more classrooms. We don't have enough teachers and the teachers don't get enough pay or so they say.

But where is the money to come from? The states don't have it. The cities don't have it. So the only source left is Uncle Sam. But he doesn't have any money either. (?) He has to get it from somewhere. But where? He can get no money from any source save from the people who live in the towns and the states.

And that brings us back where we started from. Aren't the towns and states broke? That brings up another question. Who caused them to be so poor? Who but Uncle Sam himself?

And if Uncle Sam can squeeze anymore money out of these poor towns to build schools, for their children, why can't the townspeople put it up themselves---raise it right in town and build their own schools instead of having Uncle Sam's political tax collectors cart it out of the town to Washington and then send part of it back? As sure as you live, there's something screwy here.



GETTYSBURG ADDRESS G. S. T. C. STYLE

Three score and nineteen years ago the board of education brought forth upon this hill a new college, conceived in desperation and dedicated to the proposition that all students are fair game. Now we are met in a mass of calculations, testing whether this freshman or any freshman so confused and so impoverished can long endure.

We are met at Alden's pond. We have come to dedicate a large portion of our vitality to a final resting place with those who here spend their lives that we might collect ferns. It is altogether anguish and torture to do this, but in a larger sense we cannot cheat, we cannot evade, we cannot underestimate these tests. For the teachers clever and sly who compute here have gone far beyond our poor power to add or subtract.

The world will little note nor long remember what we study here, but the board of education can never forget what we protest here. It is not for us the students to question the salaries which have been thus far so ignobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the task remaining before us. That from these to vanishing years we take increased devotion to the few remaining, that this teacher underpaid, shall figure our more tax deductions and that these books shall not have been studied in vain and that this college, of the state, for the state, shall not cause Connecticut to be illiterate.

Peggyanne Pullen

AS THE YEARS GO BY

By Miss Wood

What changes have I seen since I have been teaching on the hill?

Some of the changes have to do with the physical equipment of the school. In 1931 there was no chapel, no gymnasium and no snack bar. We had chapel daily in the room that is now the library; the gymnasium space was an unfinished chamber on the third floor of Corthell Hall; we brought our snack to school with us in a box. There was no adequate library; a few lonely volumes occupied the shelf of the present magazine room.

Some of the changes concern transportation. In 1931 the Portland and Westbrook students arrived by trolley and train. There were no traffic signs and parking spaces on the hill. The paucity of cars made both unnecessary.

There have been changes in personnel. In 1931 there was no school nurse, no librarian and only one employee in the office staff. Then there were no student janitors and the head waitress was not a student.

In 1931 Gorham was a two year institution that offered a third year as optional. Now it is a degree granting college. Then the period of student teaching was only nine weeks. To-day there is a greater emphasis upon the giving of a cultural education.

There is no doubt that Gorham is growing up.

NOTHING LIKE A DAME

Girls come in many varieties: blond, dark, red, fiery, passive, cerebral; boxy, lean, athletic, clinging, capable, highstrung, languorous. But every variety, I submit, is wondrous; and a civilized man will savor the proper virtues and delights of each. He should live by the maxim: a place for every girl and a girl for every place.

Since the enshrinement of the electron, science has made great strides. We have machines today that see, feel, hear and think. Many scientists hold that in a number of ways these machines outperform men. But nothing as yet has been devised which can outperform a dame.

There is no gain saying that girls flawlessly put together are expensive. It is a matter of history that they have seldom shown emotional concern for struggling students or threadbare geniuses. Also to be considered is the element of boredom. It is a plain fact, that the charm of the expensive lies chiefly in its unattainability.

Such are the cardinal facts, and there is nothing you can do about them. Mutter about them as you will, there they are. Perhaps as Dorothy Parker has suggested, "a man's best friend is still his mutter."

THE LITTLE DONKEY

Turn your head at laughter,
From mockery and cry,
For you were picked from others
To serve Him without why.

People have forgotten,
That once you led His way,
So lift your stubborn head up,
And proudly go your way.

By M. J. R.

BLINDNESS

I never thought
Blindness would be like this.
I thought it came
Suddenly,
Swiftly
Engulfing with its darkness
In a single stroke.
But I was wrong.
Blindness is slow
An insidious mist
Creeping in from the edges,
Dulling the sharpness
Obliterating, detail
Until all is
Enveloped in its
Twilight
Which soon darkens
Into starless night.

Anonymous

HOLY FRAUD

Piltdown man -- O holy fraud!
You made monkeys of us all,
Bearded wisdom hems and haws,
"Monkey teeth and monkey jaws"
Adam sweats and Dawin beams
Brightly still your stained
tooth gleams.

By Frank Day

Talent continued from page 1

"My main ambition is to become an artist. Often the best artists starve. I have too good an appetite to allow this to happen to me. Attending Gorham, one might say, is my attempt at gaining for myself a sense of security. I want something to fall back on in case I cannot realize my ambition."

THE INDUSTRIAL ARTS DEPARTMENT AS I SEE IT By Donald Cramer

In order for any program to function properly it must have reasons, or as is known in professional fields, objectives. This is especially true of the entire educational program. Therefore, as you would expect, the Industrial Arts program operates under a definite list of objectives. Basically ours do not differ to any great extent from those of any other department. We, as potential educators, I think, will agree that our one primary objective is that of building or developing our youth of today by guiding them in channels of good sound moral, physical and intellectual development.

In order for the student to develop, it is necessary for him to have experiences of a varied nature. I believe that no one particular field is justified in saying that they are more important than another.

Industrial Arts is accepted as part of general education because it derives its content from industry, a basic element of our culture. Too many people, even well-known educators, fail to distinguish the difference between Industrial Arts and Vocational Education. We as Industrial Arts teachers, are not trying to develop certain skills that will qualify a student to go immediately into his vocation. We have a more general objective in mind, and this is, of giving the student an over-all picture of industry and industrial pursuits which will enable him to be a more intelligent consumer in everyday life. Many students who have taken several years of Industrial Arts have never applied it to their immediate work.

Our curriculum here at G.S.T.C. is not an easy one. Any member of any of the classes here in the department carries an average of twenty-six class hours per week. Our semester credit hours will average about seventeen. However, since we are in class much of the time during the day, very little studying can be accomplished during this period. Our first two years are devoted primarily to fundamental knowledge and skills which we should acquire in order to be successful. During these years we take up such academic courses as English, mathematics, psychology, economics, youth activity, and secondary education. The shop courses consist of Fundamentals of Woodworking, Metalworking, Electricity, Transportation, Drawing, Essentials of Art and Design, and Materials of Industry.

Our third year is devoted to the program in general or as a whole. It is in this year that each student begins to form his personal philosophy of Industrial Arts and now he should teach it. There is much discussion, and as a result many heated arguments occur. Some of the courses taken up in this year are Comprehensive General Shop, Shop Organization, Educational Measurements, and Development of Instructional Materials. Although this year is probably the hardest of the three, we enjoy it very much because it deals directly with the problems that we will have to face as beginning teachers. As has been said many times, "Anything worth having is worth working for."

The first semester of our last year is spent student teaching in various shops around the state. It is during this semester that we actually try to practice and teach what we have learned here at the college. To many it is enjoyable and to a few unfortunate ones, it proves unenjoyable. The last semester of our college days are spent discussing problems and situations which arose while we were out teaching and also some time is spent traveling to various shops around the state.

Although we have a full program of courses in our department, it, as any other curriculum, has many faults. I think one major problem seems to be that of not having enough elective courses. As it is now, many students are taking courses which they are very familiar with and therefore do not derive as much benefit from them as they would from some other course. Also, many students in our department feel the need for more courses of academic nature so that they will be able to discuss all phases of education and society intelligently.

I think another common complaint seems to be that of more field trips. Many of the students in our department feel that if we could actually observe some of the processes and operations which we discuss in our courses that we would get much more out of the courses.

In concluding, I would like to state that through various sources, I am led to understand that very few students in the other departments know what is going on in the Industrial Arts department. We are not isolationists; we like company and you are welcome to visit the department.

A few weeks ago G.S.T.C. placed high in the Annual College Anthology of Poetry through the lone efforts of one Garrath Oakes. The contest is sponsored once a year for college students throughout the world.

Born in Vinalhaven, Maine Garrath has been writing prose and poetry for some time but says of the two he prefers poetry.

He favors the style of Whitman and Eliot and is working at the moment on a volume of poetry which he hopes soon to be published.

Like Ken, Garrath feels that until well established in his field you have got to eat. And so he has chosen teaching and the field of English as a good stand ins if needed.

Another champion who graces our campus is Jan Bloomer who hails from Helsinki, Finland.

Possessed with all kinds of talent, while attending Portland High School she was named New England's best strutter at the 1951-52 New England Music Festival.

Active in summer stock for two years at the Ogunquit Theater and at the Arundel Opera House her real love is swimming. It was at Portland High under coach Harold Paulsen that she developed such a love and skill for the water.

Already winner in the 1950 Peaks Island to Portland Race, her speed in swimming this course was the second fastest ever achieved by a woman. In 1951 she swam the Richeleau River. There were twenty-seven entrants. Jan placed second. A boy beat her. She also plans to swim the Newport (Rhode Island) Lighthouse Race, an eighteen mile course.

The proud possessor of many awards in swimming, big plans for the 1956 Olympics are already brewing.

In January she will start her two year training period. Lots of luck Jan. G.S.T.C. is proud of you.

At this time the members of the Pinnacle wish each and everyone of you a safe and Merry Christmas and a joyous New Year.